

JAMIE J. JIROUT

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2016-Current Assistant professor, University of Virginia
Curry School of Education

2014-2016 Assistant professor, Rhodes College
Department of Psychology

2011-2014 Postdoctoral research fellow, Temple University
Department of Psychology, Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center (SILC)
Research mentor: Nora Newcombe

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
2011 Department of Psychology and Program for Interdisciplinary Education Research
Mentor: David Klahr
Committee: Sharon Carver, Marsha Lovett, Robert Siegler
Dissertation: A study of preschool children's exploratory curiosity and question-asking
behavior

B.A. University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida
2005 Psychology major. Research mentor: Daryl Greenfield
Thesis: Early Childhood Hands-On Science: Does it work?

PUBLICATIONS

Jirout, J. (Accepted). Curiosity. To appear in Chrismen, J. & Couchenour, D. (Eds.) *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Early Childhood Education*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Jirout, J. & Newcombe, N. (2015). Building blocks for developing spatial skills: Evidence from a large representative U.S. sample. *Psychological Science*, 26(3), 303-310.

Jirout, J. & Pace, A. (2015). Scientific concepts, development in children. In J. D. Wright (Editor) *International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd Edition. Oxford, UK: Elsevier Limited.

Jirout, J. & Zimmerman, C. (2015). Science process skills in young children. In K. Trundle & M. Saçkes (Eds.), *Research in Early Childhood Science Education*. New York, NY: Springer.

Jirout, J. J., & Newcombe, N. S. (2014). Mazes and Maps: Can Young Children Find Their Way? *Mind, Brain, and Education*, 8(2), 89-96.

Klahr, D., Matlen, B. & **Jirout, J.** (2013). Children as scientific thinkers. In G. Feist & M. Gorman (Eds.), *Handbook of the Psychology of Science*. New York, NY: Springer.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. (2012). Children's scientific curiosity: In search of an operational definition of an elusive concept. *Developmental Review*, 32 (2), 125-160. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dr.2012.04.002>

Klahr, D., Zimmerman, C. & **Jirout, J.** (2011). Educational interventions to enhance, enrich, and encourage children's scientific thinking. *Science*, 333 (6045), 971-975. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1126/science.1204528>

Jirout, J. (2011). Curiosity and the development of question generation skills. *Proceedings of the AAAI 2011 Fall Symposium on Question Generation*. Menlo Park, CA: Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Press.

Greenfield, D. B., **Jirout, J.**, Dominguez, X., Greenberg, A. Maier, M., Fuccillo, J. (2009). Science in the preschool classroom: A programmatic research agenda to improve science readiness. *Early Education and Development*, 20(2), 238-264. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10409280802595441>

Publications in preparation and under review

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. (In review). Questions – and some answers – about young children's question asking.

Jirout, J., Gunderson, E. & Newcombe, N. (In prep.) Improving Spatial Scaling in Preschool: Effects of Training and Prior Skill.

Jirout, J., Holmes, C., Ramsook, K. A., & Newcombe, N. (In prep.) Scaling up spatial development: A closer look at children's scaling ability and its relation to number knowledge.

Jirout, J. (In prep.) Examining the consistency of young children's exploratory behavior.

PRESENTATIONS

Jirout, J. (2016, June). *The influence of map similarity on spatial-relational reasoning in a spatial scaling task*. Paper to be presented as part of the *Understanding mechanisms supporting spatial cognition early in development* symposium, 46th annual Jean Piaget Society meeting, Chicago, IL.

Jirout, J. (2015, October). *Scaling up spatial development: A study of strategy use in a spatial scaling task*. Invited talk, "Emerging Scholars in Spatial Development" symposium, preconference workshop on The Development of Spatial Thinking at the Cognitive Development Society meeting, Columbus, OH.

Jirout, J. (2015, October). *"I try to learn as much as I can" vs. "I try to get the best grade I can": A study of children's ideas about learning and school.* Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society meeting, Columbus, OH.

Jirout, J. (2015, September). *Playing IS learning in early childhood: The research on how children learn from play.* Invited workshop, Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children, Memphis, TN.

Jirout, J. (2015, June). *What is curiosity (and how to assess it).* Paper presented as part of the *Digital Assessment and Promotion of Children's Curiosity* workshop, ACM SIGCHI Interaction Design and Children Conference, Boston, MA.

Gordon, G., **Jirout, J.**, Engel, S. & Chang, A. (2015, June). *Digital Assessment and Promotion of Children's Curiosity.* Workshop organized for the ACM SIGCHI Interaction Design and Children Conference, Boston, MA.

Jirout, J., Holmes, C., Ramsook, K. A., & Newcombe, N. (2015, March). *Scaling up Spatial Development: A Closer Look at Children's Scaling Ability and Number Knowledge.* Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Gunderson, E. & **Jirout, J.**, & Newcombe, N. S. (2015, March). Improving Spatial Scaling in Preschool: Effects of Training and Prior Skill. In N. S. Newcombe & Z. Hawes (Chairs), *The Relationship between Spatial Thinking and Mathematics in Early Childhood.* Symposium conducted at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Hildebrand*, L., **Jirout, J.** & Newcombe, N. (2015, March). *The development of spatial ability stereotype in young children.* Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA. *Student author

Jirout, J. & Newcombe, N. (2014, November). *Building blocks for developing spatial skills: Evidence from a large representative U.S. sample.* Poster presented at the International Mind, Brain, and Education Society Conference, Fort Worth, TX.

Jirout, J. & Newcombe, N. (2014, March). *Learning from play: Impact of spatial game play on spatial ability.* Poster presented at the Seventh Annual Inter-Science of Learning Centers Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Jirout, J. (2013, October). *Examining consistency of young children's exploratory behavior.* Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society conference, Memphis, TN.

Jirout, J. & Newcombe, N. (2013, October) *Mapping the role of representations in spatial game play.* Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society conference, Memphis, TN.

Jirout, J. & Newcombe, N. (2013, April). *Mazes and maps: Can young children find their way?* Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development conference, Seattle, WA.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. (2013, April). *Do curious students ask better questions?* Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development conference, Seattle, WA.

Jirout, J. & Newcombe, N. (2013, February). *The relationship between children's spatial ability and spatial game play*. Poster presented at the Sixth Annual Inter-Science of Learning Centers Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Jirout, J., Scipio, D., Rau, M., & Van Horne, K. (2013, February). *Research-Practitioner Collaborations*. Workshop conducted at the Sixth Annual Inter-Science of Learning Centers Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Jirout, J. & Newcombe, N. (2012, April). *It's all relative: Focusing on relational structure to improve young children's scaling*. Poster presented at the Fifth Annual Inter-Science of Learning Centers Conference, San Diego, CA.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. Curiosity and the development of question generation skills. *Paper presented at the QG2011 AAAI Fall Symposium*, November 4-6, 2011, Arlington, VA.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. Children's question asking and curiosity: A training study. *Paper presented at the Society for Research in Educational Effectiveness conference*, September 8-9, 2011, Washington, DC.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. Young children's curiosity and question asking skills: Are they related? *Poster presented at the National Association of Lab Schools conference*, April 13-April 15, 2011, Pittsburgh, PA.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. Early science instruction: What is important? *Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development conference*, March 31-April 2, 2011, Quebec, Canada.

Jirout, J., & Klahr, D. Assessing and validating measures of curiosity in preschool children. *Poster presented at the Institute of Education Sciences 2010 Research Conference*, June 28-30, 2010, Washington, D.C.

Jirout, J., Lauwers, T. Fun game or educational software: Does it matter? *Poster presented at the Institute of Education Sciences 2009 Research Conference*, June 7-9, 2009, Washington, D.C.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. Children's recognition of uncertainty and exploratory curiosity, *Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development conference*, April 2-4, 2009, Denver, CO.

Jirout, J. Children's exploration: Does uncertainty matter? *Poster presented at the Institute of Education Sciences 2008 Research Conference*, June 10-12, 2008, Washington, D.C.

Jirout, J. Children's exploration: Does uncertainty matter? *Poster presented at the First Annual CMU Innovation for Impact session*, April 4, 2008, Pittsburgh, PA.

Jirout, J. Children's exploration: Does uncertainty outweigh novelty? *Poster presented at the First Annual Inter-Science of Learning Centers Conference*, February 8-10, 2008, Pittsburgh, PA.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. Why do young children explore? Uncertainty reduction and scientific curiosity in young children. *Poster presented at the Institute of Education Sciences 2007 Research Conference*, June 6-8, 2007, Washington, D.C.

Jirout, J. & Klahr, D. Why do children explore? Investigating the effect of ambiguity on children's scientific curiosity. *Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Conference*, April 9-13, 2007, Chicago.

Jirout, J. & Greenfield, D. Developing school readiness through science. *Proceedings of Head Start's 8th National Research Conference*, June 26-28, 2006, Washington D.C.

Greenfield, D.B., George, J., Iruka, I., Munis, P., **Jirout, J.**, Charak, D. Development and validation of a direct assessment of the school readiness domain, Approaches to Learning. *Poster presented at Head Start's 7th National Research Conference*, June, 2004, Washington, D.C.

Jirout, J., Greenfield, D. B., Munis, P., Iruka, I., George, J. School Readiness Domains: The relationship between approaches to learning and language development. *Presented at the Research and Creativity Forum*, April, 2004, Miami, FL.

Jirout, J., Greenfield, D. B., Munis, P., Iruka, I., George, J. School readiness domains: The relationship between approaches to learning and language development. *Presented at the University of Miami Undergraduate Research Conference*, November, 2003, Miami, FL.

AWARDS/FUNDING

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| 2015 | Accepted with funding to the AALAC Developmental Psychology Workshop at Williams College |
| 2015 | Faculty Development Endowment Grant. Curious about curiosity: The influence of young children's achievement motivation on their curiosity |
| 2015 | Received funding to attend the International Mind, Brain, and Education Society meeting and preconference session from the Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center, funded by the National Science Foundation |
| 2008, 2010 | Research Assistance for Graduate Students (RAGS) Grant
Research project funding, Dissertation funding |
| 2004, 2003 | Psychology Research Initiatives Mentorship Experience (PRIME)
Research funding and stipend for 10-week summer project |
| 2004 | Deborah Hoffman Memorial Grant Recipient |
| 2004 | 2 nd Place, Research and Creativity Forum |

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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| (Ongoing) | Ad-hoc reviewer: Journal of Cognition and Development, Cognitive Development, Frontiers in Developmental Psychology, Child Development, Science Education, American Journal of Play, National Head Start Association Dialog, Learning and Individual Differences, Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, Sex Roles |
| 2016, 2012 | Reviewer for the Society for Research in Child Development conference |
| 2015 | Workshop organizer, ACM SIGCHI Interaction Design and Children Conference |
| 2015 | Reviewer for the Cognitive Development Society conference |
| 2014 | Volunteer, chosen as chair (two sessions) and discussant (one session) for American |

2013- Education Research Association (AERA) conference
 2013- Reviewer for the American Education Research Association conference
 2013-2014 Volunteer: Philadelphia Science Festival, Discovery Days
 2013 Workshop organizer: “Research-Practitioner Collaborations”, Inter-Science of Learning Centers conference
 2008 Volunteer, Inter-Science of Learning Centers Conference
 2007-2008 Member, Curriculum development committee, Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy
 2007-2008 Member, Steering committee, Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy
 2006-2007 Coordinator, Program for Interdisciplinary Education Research EdBag speaker series
 2005-2007 Representative, Graduate Student Assembly, Social committee, Carnegie Mellon

COLLEGE SERVICE

2015 - 2016 Rhodes College Teaching and Learning Advisory Board member
 2015 - 2016 Rhodes College Advising: 5 first-year students, 7 majors
 2015 Rhodes College admissions event: Faculty Information Session (November)
 2015 - 2016 Rhodes College Faculty advisor: Best Buddies student club
 2014 - 2016 Rhodes College Psychology Department Culture and Climate Committee
 2014 - 2016 Rhodes College Psychology Department Curriculum Committee
 2014 Rhodes College admissions event: Open House mock lecture

OUTREACH

2015 Inservice training/Professional development workshop, Development of Reading, Lamplighter Montessori, Memphis, TN
 2015 Invited talk: Early Success Coalition, Memphis, TN
 2014 Teacher/Practitioner workshop, “Spatial thinking in STEM education”, Philadelphia, PA
 2014 Brain Café: community talk about brain development and spatial learning, Smith Playground, Philadelphia, PA
 2014 Research presentation with Q&A, The Miquon School, Philadelphia, PA
 2013 Information session, “Mess Fest” booth, Please Touch Museum, Philadelphia, PA
 2013 Information session, “Discovery Days” booth, Smith Playground, Philadelphia, PA
 2012 Information session, Moms of Multiples group, Bucks County, PA
 2011 Research presentation with Q&A, Propel Charter School, Pittsburgh, PA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor	VIRGINIA: Child Growth and Development (Fall, 2016) RHODES: Psychological Science (Spring, 2015), Infant and Child Development (Fall, Spring, 2015), Educational Psychology (Fall, 2014), Learning and Motivation (Fall, 2014, 2015), Advanced Research Methods (Spring, 2016)
Co-Instructor	TEMPLE: Knowing and Learning in Mathematics and Science (Fall, 2013)
Teaching Assistant	CARNEGIE MELLON: Principles of Child Development (Spring,

2008), Research Methods in Developmental Psychology (Fall, 2007),
Cognitive Psychology (Spring, 2007)

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- 2015 – 2016 Mentoring of 12 undergraduate research assistants in my Research in Education and Learning (REAL) Lab, multiple projects, Rhodes College
- 2013 – 2015 Co-mentored an honors psychology student project, Temple University
Project: Preschool children's spatial anxiety and gender bias in spatial performance
- 2012 – 2014 Oversight of seven Psychology undergraduate interns, three summer interns
Temple Infant and Child Lab and Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center, various projects, Temple University
- 2010 – 2011 Oversight of two undergraduate research assistants, Carnegie Mellon University
Project: Children's curiosity and question asking

References:

Dr. Nora Newcombe, newcombe@temple.edu

Dr. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek khirschpa@temple.edu

Dr. David Klahr, klahr@cmu.edu

Dr. Julie Booth (teaching), jlynne80@temple.edu